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2. That the island of St. John of Cabot is Scatari Island, marking the landfall at Cape Breton, the easternmost point of the island called after it, and that that cape is the natural landfall of a vessel missing Cape Race and pursuing a westerly course.

It follows, in his opinion, that John Cabot planted the banner of St. George on the American continent on the 24th of June, 1497, more than a year before Columbus set foot on the mainland. To speak with exactness, however, the priority can hardly belong to Cabot, since Cape Breton is, after all, an island.

It is less easy to settle the claims of Sebastian Cabot. Mr. Henry Stevens's formula—Sebastian Cabot — John Cabot=zero— has the sting and the honey and the girth of the epigram, but it is not to be taken seriously. Sebastian was a self-seeker, dishonest and false-hearted, according to some writers; but Dr. Dawson judges him with charity. He says that Cabot's reputation has been entirely at the mercy of his friends and that it is impossible to say whether he was addicted to inaccuracy of expression, or his friends were endowed with treacherous memories. His ability and nautical knowledge are hardly to be questioned. For years he held the office of Grand Pilot of Spain and, as Dr. Dawson says, Ferdinand and Charles V, who were good judges of men, trusted him to the last.

Dr. Dawson finds some firm ground in the conflicting testimony with regard to the second expedition, which returned under command of Sebastian. These points are established: That the expedition was a large and important one; that it sailed to the north, and that the landfall was far in the north in a region of ice and continual daylight; that from the extreme north it coasted south to latitude 38° in search of an open ocean to Cathay; that having been provisioned for a year, the expedition was fitted for such an exploration, and had the time to perform it.

If, as seems probable, the landfall in this case was on the coast of Labrador, the honour of discovering the mainland of North America belongs to the second expedition, rather than to the first; but nothing can be affirmed on this point, and the distinction, such as it is, of the first landing on the continent seems to belong of right to Columbus.

*The First Landfall of Columbus, by Jacques W. Redway, F.R.G.S.  
Reprint from National Geographic Magazine, 1894, pp. 179-192.*

In this paper Mr. Redway makes a well-sustained effort to identify the island of Samaná with the Admiral's Guanahani. He finds by a study of the earlier maps that Guanahani, El Terrigo, Trianga, Atwood Cay, Isle Nova and Samaná are one and the same, and that

one is the Guanahani of Columbus. He admits at the same time that, in the maps of the sixteenth century,

the transference and reduplication of names was made in a wholesale manner, and he claims only to have furnished additional evidence in favour of Samaná.

It may well be doubted whether Guanahani can ever be identified in such a manner as to make an end of controversy on the subject; but meanwhile the style and manner of Mr. Redway's argument are to be commended.

Four reproductions of charts elucidate the text.

*À Travers l'Afrique Australe, par Jules Leclercq, Membre Collaborateur de la Société Impériale Russe de Géographie, etc. Ouvrage accompagné de gravures et d'une Carte. Pp. 313, 18mo. (Librairie Plon.) Paris, 1895.*

M. Leclercq is an unwearied traveller, and he tells his experiences, whether of Colorado, or Samarcand, or South Africa, in the same agreeable style.

He arrived at Cape Town in June, in the rainy season, which is the South African form of winter. The city seemed to him altogether ugly and unworthy of its situation, but he was greatly impressed by the Municipal Gardens, the Library and the Museum.

He devotes a chapter to the government of the colony, and another to Sir Henry Loch and Mr. Cecil Rhodes, whom he admires. From Cape Town he crossed the Karroo to Kimberley and the diamond mines. Here he was able to study the life of the workmen. One company employed 8,000 men: 1,400 whites, 6,000 blacks, and several hundred convicts, of various races. In one *compound* M. Leclercq saw 2,000 Caffres, who were locked up every night, when their twelve working hours were past, to be marched out in files in the morning. They are regularly searched after the day's labour; yet they manage to secrete a certain proportion of the stones. These men are paid for their work, and this is the one distinction between their lot and that of the slaves in the Brazilian mines.

M. Leclercq visited also the Orange Free State, the Transvaal, Zululand and Natal. He foresees that the English capital will ultimately carry the day against the independent spirit of the Boers, in spite of their victories in the field; and in describing these he makes a criticism of Mr. Gladstone, which will hardly take its place in history.

He was delighted with Natal, the paradise of Africa, where the Hindus are establishing themselves, and in Zululand he could not